

REMARKS

In response to the official action, Applicant's hereby amend the application by relabeling figure on two drawing sheets and by amending the specification to cancel all references to the omitted drawing figures and to correct references to relabeled drawings in the specification.

A single drawing sheet (4 of 6 sheets) that contained Figs. 7, 8 and 9 had been omitted from the application as filed. Two replacement drawing sheets in which Figs. 10a, 10b and 11 have been respectively relabeled to Figs. 7a, 7b, and 8 are now submitted for the Examiner's approval.

Amendments to the specification delete reference numbers that had been presented only in the omitted drawing figures.

The omitted drawing figures depicted selected examples of a so-called "hidden strip" embodiment. The defining features of the hidden strip embodiment were fully disclosed in the application on page 7 lines 3-7, and in the two paragraphs starting at page 7, line 29. The hidden strip embodiment is further referenced in Example 2. The omitted drawing figures facilitated understanding of this embodiment but are not essential to that understanding. The hidden strip embodiment is clearly and completely explained by the text as filed. For brevity and to eliminate certain redundancy, these amendments move the substance of the paragraph on page 7, lines 3-7 into the amended paragraph starting on page 7, line 29. No new matter is added by these amendments.

Applicants also provide at this time a separate communication directed to the Office of Initial Patent Examination branch for Filing Receipt Corrections. The communication points out that the state of residence for

inventor Mr. Zafiroglu on the official filing receipt dated February 20, 2004, should be "DE".

Applicants submit that the application as amended is now in condition for examination and urge the Office to take appropriate action in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey C. Lew". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a cursive "Lew".

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